

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 198192

ORIGIN AF-10

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DOD/ISA:SCHARLES (SUBS)

DOD/DSAA:PSOMMER

-----110792 051126Z /14

R 050050Z AUG 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 198192

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, SO, SA, US

SUBJECT: TRILATERAL DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL FOR SOMALIA

REF: A) MOGADISCIO 1589, B) MOGADISCIO 1603

1. POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE (PRC) AT JULY 31 MEETING ON
SOMALIA DECIDED INTER ALIA THAT SERIOUS EXAMINATION SHOULD
BE UNDERTAKEN OF CONGRESSMAN LEGGETT'S PROPOSALS FOR
SAUDI-FINANCED, CORPS OF ENGINEERS-MANAGED INFRASTRUCTURE
PROJECTS IN SOMALIA (REFTELS), AS ONE POSSIBLE MEANS OF
ENHANCING US-SOMALI RELATIONS AND CONTRIBUTING TO SOMALI
DEVELOPMENT. AS FIRST STEP IN THIS PROCESS, WE WOULD
APPRECIATE RECEIVING COUNTRY TEAM VIEWS ON THE FOLLOWING
QUESTIONS:

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PAGE 02 STATE 198192

A. DEGREE OF SOMALI INTEREST IN CONCEPT OF TRILATERAL
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS -- IS IT YOUR JUDGMENT THAT SOMALIS
ARE SUFFICIENTLY INTERESTED IN THIS APPROACH TO BE WILLING
TO PUT THEIR OWN EFFORTS INTO IT (INCLUDING APPROACHING THE
SAUDIS ON THE PROPOSAL)?

B. SUITABILITY AND FEASIBILITY OF THIS APPROACH (I.E. CORPS OF ENGINEERS AS IN-COUNTRY MANAGER OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS) IN SOMALIA INCLUDING YOUR ESTIMATE OF LIKELY SOMALI INSTITUTIONAL COUNTERPART(S) FOR CORPS IN THESE PROJECTS.

C. STATUS AND MERITS OF SPECIFIC PROJECTS PRESENTED TO LEGGETT BY PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIRMAN (REF B), INCLUDING: ORIGIN OF PROJECTS (WE UNDERSTAND SOME OF THEM MAY HAVE BEEN TAKEN FROM SOMALI DEVELOPMENT PLAN); DEGREE OF COMPLETION OF ANY PROJECTS ALREADY STARTED WITH SOVIET OR OTHER DONOR ASSISTANCE; DEGREE OF ACTIVE INTEREST OF OTHER WESTERN DONORS IN TAKING UP PROJECTS (SOMALI PRESENTATION NOTED SEVERAL OF LISTED PROJECTS HAD ALSO BEEN PRESENTED TO UK AND FRG); AND YOUR TENTATIVE APPRAISAL OF SUITABILITY OF THESE PROJECTS FOR CONSIDERATION WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF TRILATERAL CONCEPT.

2. WE WOULD HOPE TO RECEIVE YOUR VIEWS ON THESE QUESTIONS AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE. WE RECOGNIZE THAT COMPLETE INFORMATION MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE ON ALL TOPICS, PARTICULARLY SPECIFIC PROJECTS, BUT WOULD LIKE TO HAVE YOUR BEST ESTIMATION BASED ON IN-HOUSE INFORMATION AND WITHOUT AT THIS TIME UNDERTAKING FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH SOMALIS OR ON-SITE EXAMINATION OF PROPOSED PROJECTS.

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PAGE 03 STATE 198192

CHRISTOPHER

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PAGE 01 STATE 198192
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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, SO, SA, US

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ORIGIN OF PROJECTS (WE UNDERSTAND SOME OF THEM MAY HAVE
BEEN TAKEN FROM SOMALI DEVELOPMENT PLAN); DEGREE OF
COMPLETION OF ANY PROJECTS ALREADY STARTED WITH SOVIET OR
OTHER DONOR ASSISTANCE; DEGREE OF ACTIVE INTEREST OF
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PAGE 03 STATE 198192

ONQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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